To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1208 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit cigarette sales via the Internet to individual California consumers and only permit shipping of cigarettes via the Internet to state of California tobacco licensed businesses. Existing law reduces youth access to cigarettes over the Internet by requiring Internet sellers and shippers to verify the age of the purchaser, similar rules that apply to alcohol sales and shipments. In addition, the Board of Equalization is currently uses the federal Jenkins Act to recover excise taxes from Californians that have purchased cigarettes via out-of-state Internet websites.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger